

## **REMARKS**

Claims 23 – 31 have been cancelled. Claims 1 – 5, 7, 9, 19, and 32 have been amended to clarify the subject matter regarded as the invention. Claims 1 – 22 and 32 – 36 are pending.

The Examiner has rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lambrecht.

The rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 1 has been amended to recite “training an estimation model, using (1) information associated with head-related transfer functions for each of a plurality of individuals and (2) information associated with physical characteristics for each of said plurality of individuals obtained using at least one image of each of said plurality of individuals.” Lambrecht discloses selecting an HRTF and using user input to adjust the selected HRTF in an interactive process (Figure 2). It is believed that Lambrecht does not disclose using at least one image of each of a plurality of individuals, where the images are used to obtain physical characteristic related information about the plurality of individuals, which in turn is used to train an estimation model. Claim 1 is therefore believed to be allowable.

Claims 2 – 18 depend from claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

The Examiner has rejected claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gardner in view of Lambrecht.

The rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 19 has been amended to recite “computing a model, using (1) information associated with said obtained head-related transfer functions for each of said plurality of individuals and (2) information associated with said depicted physical characteristics of each individual.” Lambrecht discloses selecting an HRTF and using user input to adjust the selected HRTF in an interactive process (Figure 2). Gardner describes using images of a listener to obtain positional information (e.g., a listener’s position and the rotational angle of the listener’s head) with respect to speakers (Col 10, lines 32 – 36). It is believed that neither Lambrecht nor Gardner describe using information associated with depicted physical characteristics, obtained from images, to compute a model. Claim 19 is therefore believed to be allowable.

Claims 20 – 22 depend from claim 19 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

The Examiner has rejected claim 32 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lambrecht.

The rejection is respectfully traversed. With respect to claim 32, claim 32 has been amended to recite “wherein said estimator is obtained using (1) information associated with head-related transfer functions for each of said plurality of individuals and (2) information associated with physical characteristics for each of said plurality of individuals obtained using at least one image of each of said plurality of individuals.” Lambrecht discloses selecting an HRTF and using user input to adjust the selected HRTF in an interactive process (Figure 2). It is believed that Lambrecht does not teach of using at least one image of each of a plurality of individuals to obtain physical characteristics used to obtain an estimator. It is therefore believed that claim 32 is allowable.

Claims 33 – 36 depend from claim 32 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Reconsideration of the application and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested based on the preceding remarks. If at any time the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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